

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 MC-02 NSC-05 EB-08 OC-06 OTPE-00 /080 R

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P 262319Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY  
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY  
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GE PRIORITY  
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE PRIORITY  
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON EN PRIORITY  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT PRIORITY  
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY  
USNMR SHAPE BE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094067

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:NATO, OCON, MILI

SUBJECT:AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY

REFS: A. USNATO 2251 DTG 190640Z APR 77; B. USNATO 2239  
DTG 161102Z APR 77; C. AC/297-D/31  
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THERE FOLLOWS BELOW COMMENTS/GUIDANCE ON THE DRAFT REPORT  
TO MINISTERS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON  
EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY (AC/297-D-30 REVISED) AND WHICH  
ANSWERS REFS A AND B.

- FUELS

-- PARA 19 REF A: IN LINE SEVEN (THIRD SENTENCE) CHANGE THE AIRCRAFT TYPE TO QTE F-15 UNQTE VICE QTE F-14 UNQTE. FYI: WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE AIR FORCE THAT THE IN-FLIGHT FEASIBILITY TESTS OF THE F-16 WITH F-34 FUEL SCHEDULED FOR AUTUMN 1977 MAY SLIP DUE TO LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF TEST AIRCRAFT. END FYI.

-- PARA 20(A) REF A: CHANGE THE LAST TWO LINES TO READ: QTE ... BY THE F-16 CONSORTIUM NATIONS OF THE OPERATIONAL AND TECHNICAL IMPLICATIONS AND COST FACTORS INVOLVED IN CONVERTING THE F-16 TO USE F-34 FUEL. UNQTE.

- TANK GUN AMMUNITION

-- PARA 10 SUBPARA 1 REF C: WE DO NOT AGREE WITH THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE THIRD SENTENCE. THE UK HAS ALWAYS MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THEY DO NOT INTEND TO RETROFIT PRESENT CHIEFTAINS WITH THE NEW 120MM RIFLED GUN. ADVANCING AGE OF THE PRESENT CHIEFTAINS AND THE REQUIREMENT TO REDESIGN THE TURRET WOULD PRECLUDE RETROFIT. UK MILITARY AUTHORITIES HERE CONCUR.

-- PARA 11 REF C: CHANGE THE LAST SENTENCE TO READ: QTE HOW BADLY AND IN WHAT FORM THIS LACK OF INTEROPERABILITY WILL EXIST DEPENDS IN PART ON UNKNOWN DECISIONS OF THE TANK PRODUCING NATIONS AS TO WHICH 120MM GUN WILL BE SELECTED. UNQTE.

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-- PARA 13 REF C: DELETE THE LAST SENTENCE AND INSERT THE FOLLOWING: QTE BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL 120MM INTEROPERABILITY PROBLEM (IT IS UNDERSTOOD ONE OF THE TANK PRODUCING COUNTRIES IS CURRENTLY FACED WITH MAKING A PRODUCTION DECISION), MINISTERIAL SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL IN OVERCOMING THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH ACHIEVING INTEROPERABLE 120MM GUNS AND AMMUNITION UNQTE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
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